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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

**Hawaii Public Utilities Commission Participates in Newly Formed
EPA-State Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects**

The Hawaii Public Utilities Commission ("PUC"), through its membership in the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, has been selected by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") to participate in the newly formed EPA-State Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy ("EERE") Projects. The EPA-State EERE Projects bring together state utility regulators and the EPA to jointly explore ways to encourage use of cost-effective energy efficiency programs and renewable, reliable, environmentally friendly and affordable energy resources, while lowering consumer energy bills.

Through the EPA-State EERE Projects, the PUC seeks to establish and implement policies and practices that will promote clean and efficient energy resources in Hawaii. Encouraging energy efficiency and renewable energy and advancing clean energy policies can lead to increased energy diversification and improved electric system reliability, while minimizing adverse environmental impacts.

"We are extremely pleased to have this opportunity to work with experts at the EPA to examine regulatory options that will help the State of Hawaii meet its goals for clean and efficient energy resources," said Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman of the PUC. "Through our involvement in the EPA-State EERE Projects, the PUC looks forward to helping to bring the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy to Hawaii's consumers and residents."

For more details on the EPA-State EERE Projects, please see the attached press release and fact sheet issued today by the EPA.

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